

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. - 28. (Canceled)

29. (New) A replication system for managing a plurality of master databases and a replica database generated from said plurality of master databases, comprising:

a means for correlating a plurality of master database names, a name of the replica database generated from said plurality of master databases by join operations based on predetermined joining keys, joining keys used in said join operations, and timing conditions setting timings at which replications of data are performed to the replica database from the master databases, with each other to thereby generate and store replication control information;

a means for, in response to reception of a data operation request for a data operation to an operated record stored in a first one of said master databases, storing identification information of the operated record to correlate the identification information with the master database name of the first master database on which the data operation request has been operated;

a means for determining whether a processing result of the data operation request meets the timing conditions;

a means for, when the timing conditions are met, acquiring the master database name of the first master database on which said data operation request has been operated, one of said stored joining keys corresponding to said timing conditions, and a second master database name of a second master database and the replica database name to be joined by the joining key from the replication control information;

a means for referring to said stored operation information to acquire the operated record subject to the data operation, said operated record belonging to the first master database on which the data operation has been made based on the data operation request;

a means for performing a joining processing with respect to said operated record subject to the data operation and said second master database to be joined using said joining key; and

a means for reflecting a replica database record generated by the joining processing to said replica database to implement to said replica database the data operation based on said data operation request.

30. (New) A replication system according to claim 29, wherein each said master database is a database associated with a relational database or a hierarchic database.

31. (New) A replication system according to claim 29, wherein when said data operation is data insertion or data deletion to any or all of said master databases, a particular timing condition is selected from a plurality of the timing conditions to conduct a predetermined replication to thereby conduct replication to the replica database.

32. (New) A replication system according to claim 31, wherein for a particular master database in which data has not been inserted, particular data indicating absence of data is set in place of absent data of the particular master database to thereby conduct the predetermined replication.

33. (New) A replication method for managing a plurality of master databases and a replica database generated from said plurality of master databases, comprising:

correlating a plurality of master database names, a name of the replica database generated from said plurality of master databases by join operations based on predetermined joining keys, joining keys used in said join operations, and timing conditions setting timings at which replications of data are performed to the replica

database from the master databases, with each other to thereby generate and store replication control information;

in response to reception of a data operation request for a data operation to an operated record stored in a first one of said master databases, storing identification information of the operated record to correlate the identification information with the master database name of the first master database on which the data operation request has been operated;

determining whether a processing result of the data operation request meets the timing conditions;

when the timing conditions are met, acquiring the master database name of the first master database on which said data operation request has been operated, one of said stored joining keys corresponding to said timing conditions, and a second master database name of a second master database and the replica database name to be joined by the joining key from the replication control information;

referring to said stored operation information to acquire the operated record subject to the data operation, said operated record belonging to the first master database on which the data operation has been made based on the data operation request;

performing a joining processing with respect to said operated record subject to the data operation and said second master database to be joined using said joining key; and

reflecting a replica database record generated by the joining processing to said replica database to implement to said replica database the data operation based on said data operation request.

34. (New) A replication method according to claim 33, wherein said replica database is operated further according to timing information to conduct a replication contained in a replication control database.

35. (New) A replication method according to claim 34, wherein said timing information to conduct a replication indicates that for data having a same joining key in the plurality of master databases, when insertion is conducted in all said master databases, data corresponding to the data is inserted in the replica database.

36. (New) A replication method according to claim 34 wherein said timing information to conduct a replication indicates that among the plurality of master databases, a primary database is determined, and when data insertion is conducted for the primary database, data corresponding to the data is inserted in the replica database.

37. (New) A replication method according to claim 34, wherein said timing information to conduct a replication indicates that when data insertion is conducted

for any one of the plurality of master databases, data corresponding to the data is inserted in the replica database.

38. (New) A replication method according to claim 34, wherein said timing information to conduct a replication indicates that for data having a same joining key in the plurality of master databases, when deletion is conducted in all said master databases, data corresponding to the data is deleted from the replica database.

39. (New) A replication method according to claim 34, wherein said timing information to conduct a replication indicates that among the plurality of master databases, a primary database is determined, and when data deletion is conducted for the primary database, data corresponding to the data is deleted from the replica database.

40. (New) A replication method according to claim 34, wherein said timing information to conduct a replication indicates that when data having a same joining key stored in the plurality of master databases is deleted, data deletion is conducted for the replica database in association with data having the same joining key.

41. (New) A replication program stored in a computer readable medium for managing a plurality of master databases and a replica database generated from

said plurality of master databases, said program, when executed, causing a computer to carry out steps comprising:

correlating a plurality of master database names, a name of the replica database generated from said plurality of master databases by join operations based on predetermined joining keys, joining keys used in said join operations, and timing conditions setting timings at which replications of data are performed to the replica database from the master databases, with each other to thereby generate and store replication control information;

in response to reception of a data operation request for a data operation to an operated record stored in a first one of said master databases, storing identification information of the operated record to correlate the identification information with the master database name of the first master database on which the data operation request has been operated;

determining whether a processing result of the data operation request meets the timing conditions;

when the timing conditions are met, acquiring the master database name of the first master database on which said data operation request has been operated, one of said stored joining keys corresponding to said timing conditions, and a second master database name of a second master database and the replica database name to be joined by the joining key from the replication control information;

referring to said stored operation information to acquire the operated record subject to the data operation, said operated record belonging to the first master database on which the data operation has been made based on the data operation request;

performing a joining processing with respect to said operated record subject to the data operation and said second master database to be joined using said joining key; and

reflecting a replica database record generated by the joining processing to said replica database to implement to said replica database the data operation based on said data operation request.

42. (New) A replication program according to claim 41, wherein said replica database is operated further according to timing information to conduct a replication contained in a replication control database.

43. (New) A replication program according to claim 42, wherein said timing information to conduct a replication indicates that for data having a same joining key in the plurality of master databases, when insertion is conducted in all said master databases, data corresponding to the data is inserted in the replica database.

44. (New) A replication program according to claim 42 wherein said timing information to conduct a replication indicates that among the plurality of master databases, a primary database is determined, and when data insertion is conducted for the primary database, data corresponding to the data is inserted in the replica database.

45. (New) A replication program according to claim 42, wherein said timing information to conduct a replication indicates that when data insertion is conducted for any one of the plurality of master databases, data corresponding to the data is inserted in the replica database.

46. (New) A replication program according to claim 42, wherein said timing information to conduct a replication indicates that for data having a same joining key in the plurality of master databases, when deletion is conducted in all said master databases, data corresponding to the data is deleted from the replica database.

47. (New) A replication program according to claim 42, wherein said timing information to conduct a replication indicates that among the plurality of master databases, a primary database is determined, and when data deletion is conducted for the primary database, data corresponding to the data is deleted from the replica database.

48. (New) A replication program according to claim 42, wherein said timing information to conduct a replication indicates that when data having a same joining key stored in the plurality of master databases is deleted, data deletion is conducted for the replica database in association with data having the same joining key.